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MM 26-37623

scheduled to go to Mexico on Sunday, 11/26/70, at the latest. Source furnished the tag as 1E-22868 which was registered to Hertz, Miami Airport.

Investigation at Hertz determined a 1971 Cougar, yellow, Vehicle Identification Number 1F91H504174 bearing 1971 Florida tag 1E-22868, had been rented on 10/19/70, at the Miami Airport on a credit card in the name of RICHARD NORIAN. A 1970 Ford Galaxie, four door, medium green, VIN ON56H127192, bearing 1971 Florida tag 1E-8437 had been rented the following day on the same credit card. Neither vehicle had been returned. Hertz was advised of the location of the Cougar, but was unable to locate it. Subsequently a JOHN DOE warrant was issued for both vehicles for Obtaining a Motor Vehicle through trick, deceit, fraud, etc - a felony in Florida.

On 11/24/70, MM 1406-C advised the Cougar had returned to the Moongate Motel on 11/23/70, and later gone to a restaurant. It was being driven by two white individuals, sex unknown.

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Source stated the Cougar was then back at the Moongate.

Buagents staked out the vehicle until the Hallandale Police Department arrived to have the vehicle impounded. It was dusted for latents and the individuals in custody of the vehicle were located on the other side of the motel.

They were identified as FRANK LESLIE MERRITT, 28 years old, white male, and his girl friend, WYLENE MAYS. They alleged they had been loaned the car by an individual named HANK MICHAELS, but were unable to further identify MICHAELS or furnish his whereabouts. They were not questioned concerning other members of the ring in order not to expose above sources or unduly alarm the other members.

PCI HARTE subsequently advised MERRITT was considered too hot to associate with since the Cougar was impounded and all have avoided any contact with him.